What is claimed is:

1   1. A system for managing financial assets comprising:

2   a computer system to receive information regarding

3   financial assets;

4   a storage system coupled to the computer system, the

5   mass storage system storing the information, and

6   a computer program to execute on the computer system,

7   comprising computer instructions to cause the computer

8   system to:

9   segregate the financial assets into a first category

10 and a second category according to a first set of rules;

11 and

12   segregate the financial assets contained within a

13 first one of each of the first and second categories into

14 asset classes according to a second set of rules.

1   2. The system of claim 1 wherein the financial assets

2   comprise accounts receivable.

1   3. The system of claim 2 wherein the computer system

2   receives information regarding transactions related to

3   accounts receivable in real-time.

1   4. The system of claim 1 further comprising:

2   a computer program comprising instructions to cause

3   the computer system to reconcile a transaction related to

4   an financial asset.

1   5. The system of claim 4 further comprising:

2   a computer program comprising instructions to cause

3   the computer system to manage an exception related to the

4   transaction.

1   6. The system of claim 1 further comprising:

2   a scanner to scan a document related to a financial

3   asset to make a scanned image, and to store the scanned

4   image on the mass storage system.

1   7. The system of claim 6 wherein scanned images are

2   displayed to an authorized user upon request

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1   8. A method of managing financial assets comprising:

2   providing a pool of financial assets;

3   abstracting information regarding a subgroup of the

4   financial assets within the pool according to at least a

5   first abstraction rule;

6   summarizing the information provided by operation of

7   the first abstraction rule;

8   providing information regarding individual financial

9   assets within the subgroup of the pool according to at

10   least a second rule.

1   9. The method of claim 8 in which the financial assets

2   comprise accounts receivable.

1   10. The method of claim 8 wherein abstracting further

2   comprises:

3   abstracting information using a hierarchy of

4   abstraction rules to define hierarchical subsets of the
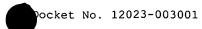
5   pool of financial assets.

1 11. The method of claim 10 further comprising:

2   representing the hierarchy of abstraction rules as a

3 tree structure defined by the hierarchy of abstraction

4 rules.

1 12. The method of claim 8 further comprising:

2   producing a report concerning individual financial

3 assets within the subgroup of the pool according to the at

4 least first abstraction rule with producing being

5 constrained by the at least second rule.

1 13. The method of claim 12 further comprising:

2   requesting the reports based on the at least first

3 rule through a client system that is coupled to a server

4 system over the Internet.

1 14. The method of claim 12 further comprising:

2   scanning a document related to a financial asset to

3 create a scanned image, storing the scanned image and

4 displaying the scanned image to an authorized user, wherein

5 the authorization is defined by the at least second rule.

1 15. The method of claim 12 further comprising:

2   requesting the report based on the at least first rule

3 by through a client system that is coupled to a server

4 system over the Internet.

1 16. The method of claim 12 in which the financial assets

2 comprise short term accounts receivable.

1 17. A computer program product, stored on a computer

2 readable medium, for managing accounts receivable, the

3 program comprising instructions for causing a computer to:

4   receive and store information related to financial

5 assets;

6   define a pool of financial assets in accordance with

7 at least a first asset pool definition rule;

8   abstract information regarding a subgroup of the

9 financial assets within the pool according to at least a

10 first abstraction rule;

11   summarize the information provide by operation of the

12 first abstraction rule;

13   provide information regarding financial assets within

14 the subgroup of the pool according to at least a first

15 access rule.

1 18. The computer program product of claim 17 in which the

2 financial assets comprise accounts receivable.

1 19. The computer program product of claim 17 further

2 comprising in which the information is received in real

3 time.

1 20. The computer program product of claim 17 further

2 comprising instructions for causing a computer to abstract

3 information using a hierarchy of abstraction rules to

4 define hierarchical subsets of the pool of financial

5 assets.

1 21. The computer program product of claim 20 further

2 comprising instructions for causing a computer to represent

3   the hierarchy of abstraction rules as a tree structure

4   defined by the hierarchy of abstraction rules.

1   22.   The computer program product of claim 17 further

2   comprising instructions for causing a computer to produce a

3   report concerning individual financial assets within the

4   subgroup of the pool according to the at least first

5   abstraction rule with producing being constrained by the at

6   least second rule.

1   23.   The computer program product of claim 22 further

2   comprising instructions for causing a computer to provide a

3   report in response to a request from a user based on the at

4   least first rule through a client system that is coupled to

5   a server system over a network.

1   24.   The computer program product of claim 17 further

2   comprising instructions for causing a computer to scan a

3   document related to the financial obligations to create a

4   scanned image, store the scanned image and display the

5   scanned image to an authorized user, wherein the

6   authorization is defined by the at least second rule.

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